

Review of Transition Stage 2

Transition Stage 2 was the second part of a three stage process to transition away from the noncommercial river-trip waitlist to the new weighted lottery system. In this stage up to 600 additional trips were made available to groups of people from the waitlist. These 600 launch dates represent approximately 24% of the new noncommercial allocation throughout the 2007 through 2011 timeframe. They were to be distributed proportionately throughout the entire timeframe as follows:

Monthly Quota for Transition Stage 2

120 Launches per Year, 2007-2011 [*]	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
Standard Size Trip (1 to 16 person)	8	8	11	8	8	8	8	8	11	11	8	8
Small Size Trip (1 to 8 person)				3	3	3	3	3				

^{*} Months with quota of 8 standard size trips can have no more than 2 transition stage 2 trips per week, months with 11 trips can have no more than 3 transition stage 2 trips per week, and months with quota of small size trips can have no more than 1 transition stage 2 trip per week.

The process began with a five week opportunity for waitlist members to band together with friends from the waitlist and submit applications by a July 13, 2006 due date. Waitlist members were strongly encouraged to ensure their compatibility with other members before joining groups. All members of each group that wins a launch through transition stage 2 would immediately be removed from the waitlist and receive no other compensation, even if they do not participate on the trip.

By banding together, groups of waitlist members were advanced up the group waitlist to the place of their combined wait. For example, if Tom had been on the waitlist for five years, Robin for nine years, and Sue for seven years, they could band together and receive a new place on the group waitlist ahead of all those groups who had waited a combined 20 years or less. Only waitlist members could be listed as group members on applications. All members listed on successful applications automatically became eligible as potential alternate trip leaders for that trip. Individuals could not be listed on more than one application.

By the July 13, 2006 deadline, 1,143 applications had been received by the River Permits Office. The group with the highest combined group wait was 63 years. The following chart shows the number of groups submitting applications and the number of these applications that were successful and unsuccessful for each range of total years of wait. The far right column indicates when months reached their quota.

Combined Group Wait in Years	# of Apps	Awarded Trips	Denied	Order that months were filled to their Transition Stage 2 Quota. (Month/Year)
50 +	6	6	0	
45 - 49	7	7	0	
40 - 44	19	19	0	
35 - 39	39	39	0	6/07
30 - 34	44	42	2	6/08, 4/07, 5/08, 6/11
25 - 29	88	85	3	9/07, 9/08, 4/08, 5/07, 7/07, 9/09
20 - 24	151	119	32	5/09, 8/07, 6/09, 8/08, 7/08, 4/09, 7/09, 5/10, 10/07, 7/10, 9/10, 7/11, 6/10, 4/10, 5/11, 10/08, 8/09, 8/11
15 - 19	139	55	84	4/11, 9/11, 8/10, 3/08, 10/09, 3/09, 3/07, 10/10
10 - 14	439	92	347	10/11, 3/10, 3/11
5 - 9	186	15	171	11/07, 2/08
0 - 4	28	9	19	

The entire Transition Stage 2 quota of April through September launch dates were claimed by groups with 19 or more years of combined wait. Most of the winter months never reached their quotas, and no trips were requested and scheduled for January 2009, 2010, and 2011, or December 2008 and 2010. All launch dates not claimed through Transition Stage 2 will be awarded through the appropriate year's lottery. Later this week, successful applicants will be sent letters confirming their reservations.

The following chart was created to illustrate exactly how a particular week was booked and what remains available for the lottery. In this example, July 7th was previously booked through a deferment that occurred in 2005. In each stage the week was marked as unavailable once the limit of 2 large trips and 1 small trip was reached.

Sample Calendar from July 6-12, 2008

The Week Limit was 2 Standard Trips plus 1 Small Trip for each stage of the transition

Trip Size	Awarded Through	Person / Group Awarded Launch Waited on the Waitlist This Number of Years						
		July 6th	July 7th	July 8th	July 9th	July 10th	July 11th	July 12th
Standard (9-16 ppl)	Pre-Transition		Deferment					
	Transition Stage 1	14 years		14 years				
	Transition Stage 2				23 years	34 years		
	Available for Lottery						Lottery	Lottery
Small (1-8 ppl)	Transition Stage 1		12 years					
	Transition Stage 2				13 years			
	Available for Lottery						Lottery	

A total of 1,292 waitlist members (20% of the waitlist) are represented by the 488 groups that obtained launches through Transition Stage 2. In being awarded these launches, all of these individuals have been removed from the waitlist. The total years of combined wait for all the successful groups was 11,348 years. This means everyone else from the old waitlist will benefit by having less competition in the lottery because there will be 11,348 fewer “extra chances” for these other applicants.

This concluded Transition Stage 2.